

**In the Specification:**

**Cross Reference to Related Application**

This application claims priority to U.S. ~~application~~ patent number 09/107,246 6,260,070, entitled "System and Method for Determining a Preferred Mirrored Service in a Network by Evaluating a Border Gateway Protocol", filed 06/30/98, and to U.S. patent ~~application~~ number 09/087,689 6,446,121, entitled "System and Method for Measuring Round Trip Times in a Network Using a TCP Packet", filed 05/26/98, both of which are assigned to Cisco Technology, Inc. and both of which are herein incorporated by reference. This application is also related to U.S. patent ~~application~~ number 6,205,477 [CISCP048 of Beyer & Weaver], entitled "Apparatus and Method for Performing Traffic Redirection via a Distributed System Using a Portion Metric", filed 10/20/98 which is also assigned to Cisco Technology, Inc. and is herein incorporated by reference.